**Green Team Meeting** Sunday, August 27, 2023

**Present**: Jan & Neal Flora, Tom Meyer, Terry Potter, Christa Andersen, Pat Spangler, Barbara Faidley, Ken Birt, Brian

**New Business**

**What will be our focus this next year?**

**Theme** – *Climate Change, Reduction of Greenhouse gases (CO2, methane, nitrous oxide)*

**Energy upgrades in the Office** – New Generation LED Lighting. Rewiring will be needed. Ken can do the wiring. Estimate $200 - $900. Ken will make a recommendation to the Property Committee with estimates of fixtures, etc. Rooms to be updated – 2 offices, meeting room & kitchen.

**Solar panels on Fellowship Hall**

Neal & Tom shared *an Interfaith Power and Light Zoom program, “Congregational Solar”.*

*Rebates from IRA (federal infrastructure) provide rebates of 30% for solar installations.*

**RE-volv** – A *climate justice organization that offers solar financing to help fellow nonprofits go solar, while educating community members about the benefits of clean energy. It is a 501©3 Nonprofit*, based in San Francisco. Founded in 2011. RE-volv would install, own and maintain for 20 years. Congregations are saving tens of thousands of dollars.

The link interfaithpowerandlight.org *has been sent to all Green Team members. All members should listen to the Zoom program. At the next Green Team meeting* (**October 22**) *we will ask for a task force of 3 to study the feasibility*. RE-volv requires that UCC provide utility bills and a structural evaluation.

*Collaboration with First Christian Church* – Pat Attended their July Green Team meeting. They rented native solitary bees (Mason bees and Leafcutter bees) and placed them on the church property in the summer.

**Old Business**

*Climate Hope cards* were mailed (70) to the National UCC Church in Washington, DC.

*Season of Creation, Let Justice & Peace Flow, will be Sunday, October 1*, outdoors & indoors in the afternoon at St. Cecilia Church, 2900 Hoover Ave. Pat Spangler will present on Ames UCC’s Green Team activities. Neal serves on the planning committee.

*Moment for Mother Earth* time will be shared with Social Justice and will be renamed.

*Newsletter Deadline* – Monday, 8/28/23. Promotion for “Let Justice & Peace Flow”.

Article – “Judge Sides with Young Activists in First-Of-Its-Kind Climate Change Trial in Montana”

**Projects**

Collect cloth bags for the Bridge Home in collaboration with Social Justice. In December purchase reusable gift cards for Bridge Home clients – ex. showers at City Hall, bus passes, etc.

What actions do you take to reduce your carbon footprint or to protect natural resources? Solicit quotes from youth and congregation. – Christa

Next meeting – Sunday, October 22, 2023